# Elements of the Violation

"It's a good thing!"

Martha Stewart

#### **Elements of the Violation**

• Pieces of a puzzle

## **Element Defined**

- An element is the breakdown of the simplest parts of the requirement
- It is that which must be proved to
  establish that a violation
  (of a requirement)
  occurred

#### Why Bother?

- It is the basic analytical exercise
- Explains to others why you are taking an action
- Provides a "sketch" of the case

# "Checklist" Approach

- Leads to logical presentation
- Easier to follow

#### When and How?

- When something <u>probably</u> happened...
- Analyze sections that may apply
- Exclude sections that don't apply

## **Simplifies Investigations**

- Allows you to "plan" investigation
- Allows focus on priorities, e.g., evidence collection

#### **Organizes**

- It can help to make the NOPA "understandable"
- It can help the Advocate present a clear and complete case

## **Quality Control**

- Helps eliminate irrelevant and unreliable information
- Helps prevent weak enforcement actions, or actions that can't be upheld

## **Helps the Hearing Officer**

- Easier for Hearing Officer to make findings (in your favor)
- Easier for Hearing Officer to write a clear decision (in your favor)

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#### **Evidence Defined**

• A fact of consequence which furnishes proof of the violation

#### **Examples of Evidence**

- Witness Statements
- Expert Testimony
- Photos & Diagrams
- Laboratory Analyses
- Reports
- Hearsay

#### **Inference Defined**

• A conclusion, based upon reasoning

#### **Make Inferences Only When**

- You have sufficient facts
- Inferences are clearly labeled
- Not all elements need an "inference"

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#### **Prove the Violation**

- Select a law, regulation, or rule
- Break it into its "elements"
- Provide a piece of evidence to support each element
- Decide whether or not a violation occurred

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#### **Break Section Into Elements**

- 3CCR §6678
- Service Container Labeling

**Elements of Violation** 

#### 3CCR §6678

"Service containers, other than those used by a person engaged in the business of farming when the containers are used on the property the person is farming, shall be labeled with: (a) The name and address of the person or firm responsible for the container; (b) The identity of the pesticide in the container; and . . . ."

3CCR §6678

"Service containers, other than those used by a person engaged in the business of farming when the containers are used on the property the person is farming . . ."

Element 1: When there is a service container

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#### 3CCR §6678

"The service container shall be labeled with:

(a) The name and address of the person or firm responsible for the container; . . ."

Element 2: It shall be labeled with the following list of items . . .

3CCR §6678

Element 2: It shall be labeled with the following list of items . . .

Element 2 – The list of specific items . . .

- Name and address and . . .
- ◆ Identity and . . .
- Signal word.

# 3CCR §6678

2 Elements or 4????

Let's get started with the exercises!

Teams

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## Teams

Squirrels Ants
Mice Scorpions
Cockroaches Silverfish
Rats Spiders
Termites Skunks

There are five sections to "elementize"

## Who does what?

Squirrels and Mice 3CCR §6738(b)
Rats and Ants B&P §8505
Scorpions and Skunks FAC §11701
Cockroaches and Silverfish 3CCR §6600(a)
Spiders and Termites FAC §15204

Team Captain . . .

Blank Worksheets

&

Your Team's Section

Let's get started!

GUILTY

QUESTIONS